

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 025121

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN BEIRUT CAIRO
DMASCUS JIDDA JERUSALEM FROM TEL AVIV DTD 31 JAN 1978 QTE

S E C R E T TEL AVIV 1408

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

CAIRO FOR AMBASSADOR AND ATHERTON

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, XF, US, IS, EG

SUBJ: PEACE PROCESS AND DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

REF: JERUSALEM 0299

1. AFTER A RECEPTION AT HIS HOME LAST NIGHT (JAN 30) FOR CHIP
AND CARON CARTER, DAYAN AND I HAD AN INFORMAL CONVER-
SATION ABOUT THE ATHERTON VISIT AND OTHER ASPECTS OF
THE PEACE PROCESS. HE WAS VERY HAPPY WITH ATHERTON'S
EFFORTS AND ROLE HERE, AND LOOKING FORWARD VERY MUCH

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TO HEARING FURTHER FROM ATHERTON AFTER HIS CAIRO MEETINGS.

2. DAYAN REMAINED EXTREMELY HOPEFUL AND I SENSED
PERHAPS TOO OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE
DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES WOULD INDEED BE COMPLETED
BEFORE SADAT LEFT FOR THE UNITED STATES. (THIS NOT
WITHSTANDING THE MORE RESERVED MESSAGE WHICH ATHERTON

HAD GIVEN HIM--REFTEL.) I THEREFORE CAUTIONED HIM AGAIN THAT I COULD SEE REALLY NO REALISTIC POSSIBILITY OF THIS HAPPENING, ALTHOUGH CERTAINLY ROY ATHERTON WAS GOING TO BE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO PUSH IT ALONG RAPIDLY DURING HIS TALKS IN CAIRO. I TOLD HIM THAT MY OWN SENSE WAS THAT THE EGYPTIANS WOULD NOT WISH TO CONCLUDE ANYTHING UNTIL THEY HAD ASSESSED THE RESULTS OF SADAT'S MEETINGS WITH THE PRESIDENT. WHAT WE PROBABLY COULD HOPE FOR WAS A RENEWED AND PERHAPS RAPID EFFORT TO COMPLETE THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE DECLARATION AFTER SADAT RETURNS FROM WASHINGTON. DAYAN AND I AGREED THAT IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO PUSH THIS EXERCISE THROUGH TO COMPLETION, BUT HE THOROUGHLY UNDERSTANDS THAT IT MAY NOT BE ENOUGH TO BRING HUSSEIN INTO THE NEGOTIATIONS INAND OF ITSELF. DAYAN CONCURRED WITH THE JUDGMENT WE REACHED AT THE AMMAN COM MEETING THAT FOR THE DECLARATION EXERCISE TO FAIL AT THIS STAGE WOULD BE A REAL SET-BACK AND WOULD PRODUCE VERY UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS ON THE WHOLE PROCESS. HE IS QUITE REALISTIC ABOUT WHAT A DECLARATION WOULD ACHIEVE, HOWEVER, AND NOW UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE OF MOVING ON IN SOME FASHION TO MORE SPECIFIC WORK ON AGENDA ITEM B AS SOON AS A DECLARATION CAN BE COMPLETED.

3. DAYAN AGAIN SAID WHAT A PLEASURE IT HAD BEEN TO WORK WITH ATHERTON DURING THE DELEGATION'S STAY HERE, AND HIS HOPE THAT ATHERTON WOULD RETURN TO THE AREA IN SECRET

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THE VERY NEAR FUTURE FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS. LEWIS UNQTE VANCE

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